

HOUSE No. 1613

By Mr. Perry of Sandwich, petition of Jeffrey Davis Perry and others relative to regional behavioral evaluation and stabilization units for certain incarcerated persons. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Jeffrey Davis Perry
Shirley Gomes
Eric Turkington
Therese Murray

Cleon H. Turner
Donald F. Humason, Jr.
Susan Williams Gifford
Douglas W. Petersen

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 149 of the Acts of 2004 is hereby amended in line item
- 2 8910-0003 by deleting the text of the item in its entirety and
- 3 inserting in place thereof the following:
- 4 For three regional behavioral evaluation and stabilization units
- 5 to provide forensic mental health services within existing physical
- 6 facilities for incarcerated persons in the care of correctional facili-
- 7 ties in the Commonwealth; provided, that one unit shall be located
- 8 in the former Hampden County to serve the needs of incarcerated
- 9 persons in the care of the former Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden,
- 10 Hampshire, and Worcester counties; provided further, that one
- 11 unit shall be located in the former Middlesex County to serve the
- 12 needs of incarcerated persons in the care of Bristol, the former
- 13 Essex, the former Middlesex, Norfolk, and Suffolk counties; pro-
- 14 vided further, that one unit shall be located in Barnstable County
- 15 to serve the needs of incarcerated persons in the care of Barn-

16 stable, Dukes, Nantucket and Plymouth counties; provided further,
17 that the services of the units shall be made available to incarcer-
18 ated persons in the care of the department of correction; provided
19 further, that the Massachusetts Sheriffs' Association, in conjunc-
20 tion with the department of correction, shall prepare a report that
21 shall include, but not be limited to, a) the number of incarcerated
22 persons in facilities located in former and existing counties that
23 were provided services in each unit, b) the number of incarcerated
24 persons in department of correction facilities that were provided
25 services in each unit, c) the alleviation in caseload at Bridgewater
26 State Hospital associated with fewer incarcerated persons in the
27 care of former and existing counties being attended to at said hos-
28 pital and, d) the estimated and projected cost-savings in fiscal year
29 2005 to the sheriff departments and the department of correction
30 associated with the regional units; provided further, that the report
31 shall be submitted to the house and senate committees on ways
32 and means no later than March 15, 2005; and provided further,
33 that the department of mental health shall maintain monitoring
34 and quality review functions of said units.